



# The First National Bank of Minersville

MINERSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA 17954-0196 (570)-544-4726

September 7, 2005

FDIC, San Francisco Regional Office  
Attn: John F. Carter, Director  
25 Jessie St. @ Ecker Square, Suite 2300  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Carter:

I am truly amazed that FDIC needs comment letters to decide if Wal-Mart should be granted FDIC Insurance for its pending Utah based ILC. FDIC must know that mixing banking and commerce is a bad idea for the following reasons:

1. Congress reaffirmed its opposition to mixing banking and commerce with the usage of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act. This by itself should put FDIC on notice that is a bad deal.
2. Wal-Mart is so large that its disfavoring of small businesses that compete with it and favoring suppliers in credit decisions can de-stabilize the small business sector and thus eliminate enterprises that are the backbone of new ideas and new inventions.
3. Wal-Mart has a history of de-stabilizing communities. It has happened here in my home county. With its vast resources, it could and will drive-out community banking such as ours, just like it has driven-out community grocery stores, pharmacies and hardware stores. You should come to Minersville and see first hand what takes place. We have two (2) viable businesses left in our commercial district, which is five (5) blocks long. This then leaves us with several small restaurants, hairdressers, barbershops and second hand shops.
4. A Wal-Mart Bank with FDIC Insurance poses an enormous system risk. Wal-Mart presently controls eight (8%) percent of the non-restaurant, non-automotive sales in the U.S. If you put a Wal-Mart Bank in every store, the concentration of economic power would be extremely dangerous to the Community-Banking Industry.

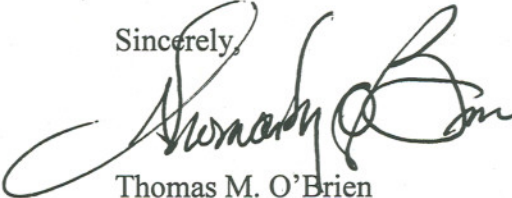
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It seems to me that the banking industry has taken its lumps in the last few years and it is overdue for a break in the general "give-a-way" philosophy that has prevailed. We need relief from attack by the Credit Union Tax Free Industry and from the Wal-Marts that want to get into the Banking Industry.

Hopefully you will consider my thoughts when debating a decision on Wal-Marts request for FDIC Insurance. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas M. O'Brien", written in a cursive style.

Thomas M. O'Brien  
President

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